

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 189595
ORIGIN SMI-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 OES-09 ABF-01 FSE-00 /024 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OSCI,TBIO,BU

SUBJECT: SMI/SFCP - TRAVEL OF SMITHSONIAN BOTANIST
THOMAS R. SODERSTROM

1. DR. THOMAS R. SODERSTROM, CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF
BOTANY, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY WILL BE
TRAVELING TO INDIA AND SRI LANKA SEPTEMBER THROUGH
NOVEMBER ON SMI/SFCP SPONSORED PROJECTS TO STUDY ASIAN
BAMBOOS.

2. WHILE TRAVELING IN THE AREA SODERSTROM WOULD LIKE TO
VISIT BURMA FOR SEVERAL DAYS TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES
OF DEVELOPING A COOPERATIVE BAMBOO STUDY PROGRAM.

3. BURMA IS A CRITICAL AREA IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF
BAMBOOS LYING BETWEEN INDIA, CHINA AND INDOCHINA.
REPRESENTATIVE COLLECTIONS FROM THESE AREAS ARE DEPOSITED
IN THE NATIONAL COLLECTIONS, BUT FEW EXIST FROM BURMA.
BAMBOO IS OF EXTREME ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE PROVIDING
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MATERIALS FOR HOUSING, UTENSILS, FARM IMPLEMENTS, BASKETS

AND CONTAINERS, BINDING MATERIAL AND FOOD. IT IS AN
IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL PAPER RESOURCE.

4. SODERSTROM BELIEVES IT UNLIKELY THAT ANY TAXONOMIST
IS WORKING ON THE BAMBOOS OF BURMA. WOULD EMBASSY

WELCOME HIS VISIT IN NOVEMBER. COULD EMBASSY SUGGEST
CONTACTS HE MIGHT MAKE IN BURMA TO DISCUSS BAMBOO
RESEARCH.

5. IF EMBASSY PERCEIVES NO OBJECTION SMI/SFCP WILL
AUTHORIZE PER DIEM FOR DR. SODERSTROM'S STAY IN BURMA. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 27 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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From: STATE
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Line Count: 68
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Message ID: 7a2ad76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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